IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Hirotaka TOHARA

Mail Stop: PCT

Serial No. NEW

Attorney Docket No. 2004_1723A

Filed November 16, 2004

NOSE MASK
[Corresponding to PCT/JP03/06307
Filed May 21, 2003]

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant requests consideration of the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and any additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for:

- [X] each U.S. Patent and U.S. Patent application publication;
- each reference previously cited in the international application PCT/____; and/or
- [] each reference previously cited in prior parent application Serial No.
- 1a. [X] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

1b. [] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

- (1) [] the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, or
- (2) [] the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.
- 1c. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and

the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

- 2. It is hereby certified
 - a. [] that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or
 - b. [] that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.
- 3. [] Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.

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- 4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:
 - a. [] a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
 - b. [X] a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
 - c. [] the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page,
 - d. [X] the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
 - e. [] the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:
- 5. [] A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Hirotaka TOHARA

Michael S. Huppert

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DT15 Rec'd PCT/PTO 1 6 NOV 2004 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT Sheet 1 of 1 SERIAL NO. FORM PTO 1449 (modified) ATTY DOCKET NO. 10/514431 2004_1723A NEW U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE **APPLICANT** Hirotaka TOHARA LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary) GROUP **FILING DATE** Date Submitted to PTO: November 16, 2004 November 16, 2004 **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS** SUBCLASS DOCUMENT DATE NAME CLASS FILING DATE IF *EXAMINER INITIAL **APPROPRIATE** NUMBER AΑ 1,322,375 11/1919 W.K. Un AB 4,221,217 9/1980 Amezcua AC AD ΑE AF AG AΗ ΑI FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS DOCUMENT DATE COUNTRY CLASS **SUBCLASS** TRANSLATION YES NO NUMBER 7/1998 JP AJ 3-52457 ΑK 2417304 9/1979 FR FR AL 2504003 10/1982 AM AN OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) Microfilm of the specification and drawings annexed to the request of Japanese Utility Model Application AO No. 125767/1984 (Laid-open No. 39556/1986) (Kiyoshi UEMATSU), March 12, 1986, Pages 2-3. Microfilm of the specification and drawings annexed to the request of Japanese Utility Model Application AP No. 36963/1989 (Laid-open No. 126668/1990) (Kiyohito FURUYA), October 18, 1990, Pages 4-20.

No. 118294/1989 (Laid-open No. 57511/1991) (Nifco Inc.), June 3, 1991.

AQ

EXAMINER

Microfilm of the specification and drawings annexed to the request of Japanese Utility Model Application

DATE CONSIDERED